

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A fixing element ~~consisting of plastic and with a foot part~~ (4) ~~[sic; (3)]~~ for insertion into an oblong hole (4) of a carrier plate, ~~which~~ comprising:

a foot part (3) consists of including a head (5) corresponding in size to the edge (6) of the oblong hole; ~~and of~~

a shaft (7) adapted to the width of the oblong hole (4), ~~which~~ such that the fixing element can be locked into the oblong hole (4) after the insertion of the head (5) by a quarter turn under elastic deformation of the shaft, wherein the (7), ~~which~~ shaft (7) ~~consists of~~ includes a middle strut (10) connecting the head (5) to the fixing element, ~~which~~ and the strut ~~has~~ corresponds to the width of the oblong hole; (4) ~~and on each of the two edges (11) of which~~

a shank (12) is formed on each of the two edges of the middle strut at a right angle and in opposite directions, ~~in such a manner that they~~ the shanks are elastically bent towards the middle strut (10) during the screwing in of the shaft (7) through the edge (6) of the oblong hole and after a quarter turn ~~they rise back up again into~~ return to their original position ~~as a consequence of~~ due to the elastic return force of the plastic; ~~and thus oppose a rotation in the opposite direction, characterized in that the head (5) comprises~~

pressing ramps (8) formed on ~~its~~ the two outer ends of the head that extend during screwing in over the edge (6) of the oblong hole ~~and that~~ to prevent a rotation in the opposite direction; and

other shanks (13) ~~are~~ formed on the free ends of the shanks (12).

2. (Currently Amended) The fixing element according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the other shanks ~~(13)~~ are aligned parallel to the middle strut ~~(10)~~ ~~and have~~ and extend the length of the middle strut ~~(10)~~.

3. (Currently Amended) The fixing element according to Claim 2, ~~characterized in that shoulders (14) running away from each other again in opposite directions are present further~~ comprising a shoulder located on the free ends of the other shanks and extending in opposite directions, wherein the ~~(13) whose~~ projecting height (h) of the shoulder is equal to ~~the interval a distance~~ (a) between the middle strut ~~(10)~~ and the other shanks ~~(13)~~ running parallel to it.

4. (Withdrawn) A fixing element consisting of plastic and with a foot part (3) for insertion into an oblong hole (4) of a carrier plate, which foot part (4) [sic; (3)] consists of a head (5) corresponding to the edge (6) of the oblong hole and of a shaft (7) adapted to the width of the oblong hole (4), which fixing element can be locked in the oblong hole (4) after the insertion of the head (5) by a quarter turn under elastic deformation of the shaft (7), which shaft (7) consists of a middle strut (10) connecting the head (5) to the fixing element, which strut has the width of the oblong hole (4) and on each of the two edges (11) of which a shank (12) is formed at a right angle and in opposite directions in such a manner that they are elastically bent towards the middle strut (10) during the screwing in of the shaft (7) through the edge (6) of the oblong hole and after a quarter turn they rise back up again into their original position as a consequence of the elastic return force of the plastic and thus oppose a rotation in the opposite direction, characterized in that the head (5) comprises pressing ramps (8) on its two outer ends that extend

during screwing in over the edge (6) of the oblong hole and that a countershank (18) is formed on each of the two edges (11) of the middle strut (10) in opposite directions.

5. (Withdrawn) The fixing element according to Claim 4, characterized in that the interval (A) of the two shanks (12) and of countershanks (18) projecting at right angles corresponds to the width (B) of the oblong hole (4) and that each countershank (18) is approximately twice as thick as the associated, elastically deformable shank (12).